

# Induced Abortion

According to South Dakota Codified Law 34-23A-34 to 34-23A-45, physicians are required to submit to the Department of Health the Report of Induced Abortion Form, a Voluntary and Informed Consent Form for all abortions, and a Parental Notice Form where applicable. These forms can be seen in the Appendix A on pages 231-233.

## An Overview: 2005

Total Induced Abortions Performed in South Dakota	805
Total Induced Abortions Performed in South Dakota on South Dakota Residents	658

## Patient Information

There were 805 abortions performed in South Dakota in 2005, down from the 814 abortions performed in 2004. Of the 805 abortions performed in South Dakota, 658 or

82 percent were performed on South Dakota residents. Table 59, below, provides the residence and age breakdown for the abortions performed in South Dakota.

**Table 59**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Patient's State of Residence and Age, 2005**

	Total	AGE OF PATIENT					
		0-17	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35 +
Number	805	56	80	281	179	116	93
Percent	100	7.0	9.9	34.9	22.2	14.4	11.6
<b><u>State of Residence</u></b>							
South Dakota	658	45	58	231	151	92	81
Minnesota	89	7	16	26	13	19	8
Iowa	42	2	5	16	12	4	3
Other	16	2	1	8	3	1	1

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

**Table 60**  
**South Dakota Resident Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Patient's Resident County, 2005**

County	Induced Abortions	County	Induced Abortions
Aurora	0	Hyde	0
Beadle	12	Jackson	---
Bennett	---	Jerauld	0
Bon Homme	0	Jones	0
Brookings	31	Kingsbury	---
Brown	14	Lake	---
Brule	---	Lawrence	14
Buffalo	---	Lincoln	42
Butte	---	Lyman	---
Campbell	0	McCook	---
Charles Mix	---	McPherson	---
Clark	---	Marshall	---
Clay	20	Meade	13
Codington	16	Mellette	0
Corson	0	Miner	---
Custer	---	Minnehaha	253
Davison	20	Moody	---
Day	0	Pennington	69
Deuel	---	Perkins	0
Dewey	---	Potter	---
Douglas	0	Roberts	---
Edmunds	---	Sanborn	---
Fall River	---	Shannon	10
Faulk	0	Spink	---
Grant	0	Stanley	---
Gregory	---	Sully	0
Haakon	---	Todd	14
Hamlin	---	Tripp	---
Hand	---	Turner	---
Hanson	---	Union	---
Harding	0	Walworth	---
Hughes	---	Yankton	15
Hutchinson	---	Ziebach	---

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

**Table 61**  
**South Dakota Resident Induced**  
**Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Patient's Resident City, 2005**

Resident City	Number
Aberdeen	13
Brookings	29
Huron	11
Mitchell	18
Rapid City	61
Sioux Falls	245
Vermillion	18
Watertown	16
Yankton	14
All Other	233
<b>Total</b>	<b>658</b>

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Table 60, above, shows the breakdown of abortions by county of residence and Table 61, to the right, shows the breakdown of abortions by city of residence for 2005.

**NOTE: To protect the privacy of the patient, only counties or cities with at least 10 events are included in each table.**

Table 62, below, indicates that women age 20-24 comprise the largest percentage of the induced abortions performed in South Dakota with 34.9 percent of the abortions. Women ages 25-29 comprise the next largest percent with 22.2 percent of abortions in South Dakota. This is also true for South Dakota residents where women age 20-24 received 35.1 percent and women

ages 25-29 received 22.9 percent of the induced abortions performed in South Dakota to South Dakota residents.

Table 63, below, indicates that of the abortions that occurred in South Dakota, 79.5 percent were white, while 8.1 percent were American Indian.

**Table 62**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Age and**  
**South Dakota Resident Induced Abortions by Age, 2005**

Patient's Age	Occurring in South Dakota		South Dakota Residents	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<=17	56	7.0	45	6.0
18-19	80	9.9	58	8.8
20-24	281	34.9	231	35.1
25-29	179	22.2	151	22.9
30-34	116	14.4	92	14.0
35-39	68	8.4	60	9.1
40+	25	3.1	21	3.2
<b>Total</b>	805	100.0	658	100.0

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

**Table 63**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by**  
**Patient's Age and Race, 2005**

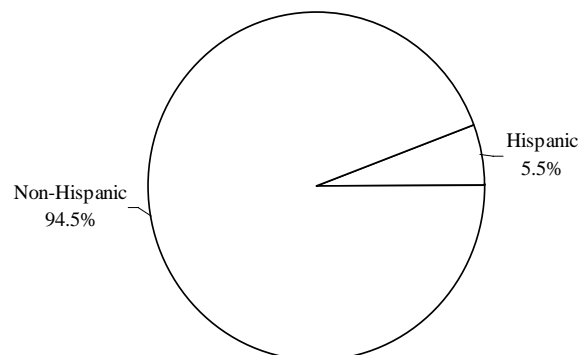
Patient's Age	Total	Patients' Race		
		White	American Indian	Other
<b>Number</b>	805	640	65	100
<b>Percent</b>	100.0	79.5	8.1	12.4
<=17	56	41	8	7
18-19	80	68	5	7
20-24	281	228	22	31
25-29	179	142	17	20
30-34	116	87	8	21
35-39	68	54	2	12
40 +	25	20	3	2

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 12, to the right, illustrates that most of the women, 94.5 percent, were not of Hispanic origin. South Dakota's population consists of 1.5 percent Hispanic women age 15 to 44.

Table 64, below, shows the education and marital status of the induced abortion patients. Considering education, 268 or 33.3 percent of the 805 patients who received induced abortions in South Dakota reported their highest level of education completed was some college or attended vocational school.

**Figure 12**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Ethnicity of Patient, 2005**



Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

**Table 64**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Patient's Education and Marital Status, 2005**

	Total	Marital Status	
		Not Married	Married
<b>Total</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>177</b>
<b>Education of Patient</b>			
No Education	3	2	1
Did Not Graduate High School	124	108	16
High School Graduate	267	221	46
Completed Some College or Attended Vocational School	268	208	60
College Graduate	87	56	31
Graduate School or Higher	52	29	23
Not Stated	4	4	0

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

### Payment Information

The Report of Induced Abortion Form asks questions about how much the abortion cost and who paid for the abortion. Table 65, on the next page, indicates that in 2005, 89.1 percent of all abortions performed in South Dakota were self-pay while 8.9 percent were paid by private insurance and 0.7 percent

were paid by public health plans. Of the 78 abortions paid by private insurance or a public health plan, 14 were paid by a managed care insurance company, 6 by a fee-for-service insurance company, and the remaining 58 were other or not specified.

**Table 65**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Payment and Insurance Coverage Type, 2005**

Payment Source	Total	Fee-for-service Insurance Co.	Managed Care Company	Other	Not Stated
Private Insurance	72	6	14	21	31
Public Health Plan	6	0	0	5	1
Self	717	0	0	0	717
Not Stated or Other	10	0	0	3	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>756</b>

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

The majority, 56.5 percent, of abortions in 2005 cost between \$400 and \$449. The majority of abortions from 2001 to 2002 fell into the \$300 to \$399 range. In 2003, most abortions cost the same as in 2004, falling between \$450 and \$499.

Figure 13, below, compares the fees for 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005. This shows that the majority of the abortions performed in 2005 cost less than the previous two years.

**Figure 13**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Fee Collected for Abortion, 2001-2005**



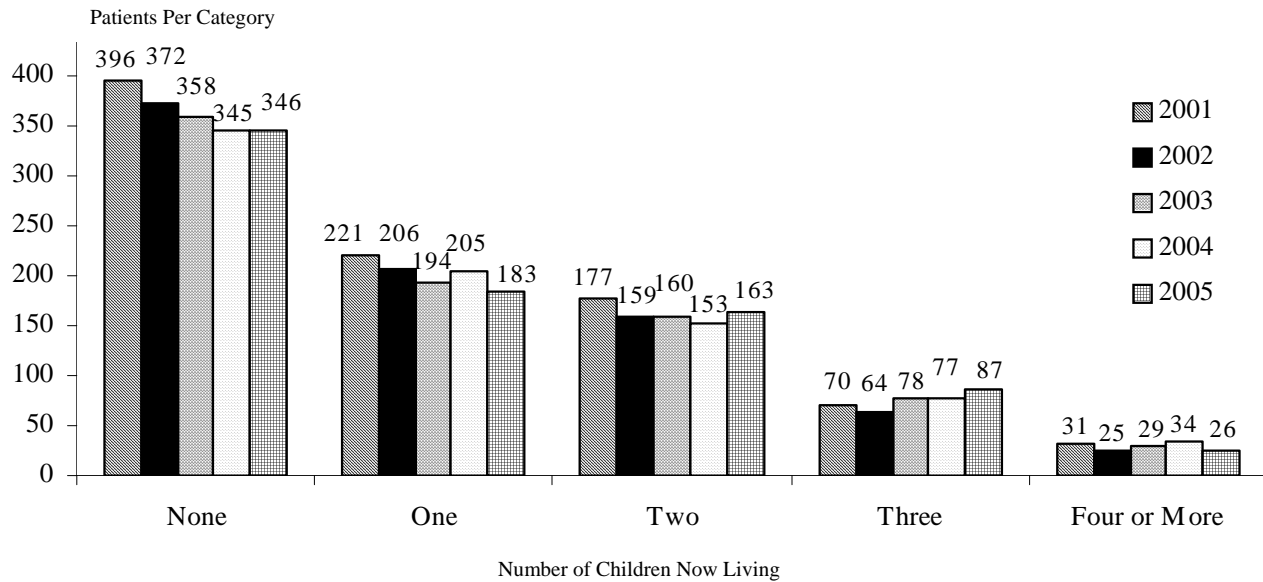
Note: In 2003 fees collected for induced abortions were clarified to include all services related in any manner to the induced abortion.  
Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

### Previous Pregnancies

The Report of Induced Abortion Form also asked a series of questions about previous pregnancies. Figure 14, on the next page, illustrates the number of children now living reported by the patients who received abortions in South Dakota for 2001, 2002

2003, 2004, and 2005. Of the women reporting in 2005, 43 percent reported having no living children. Only 3.1 percent had one or more live births that are now deceased.

**Figure 14**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by the Number of**  
**Patient's Children Who are Now Living, 2001-2005**

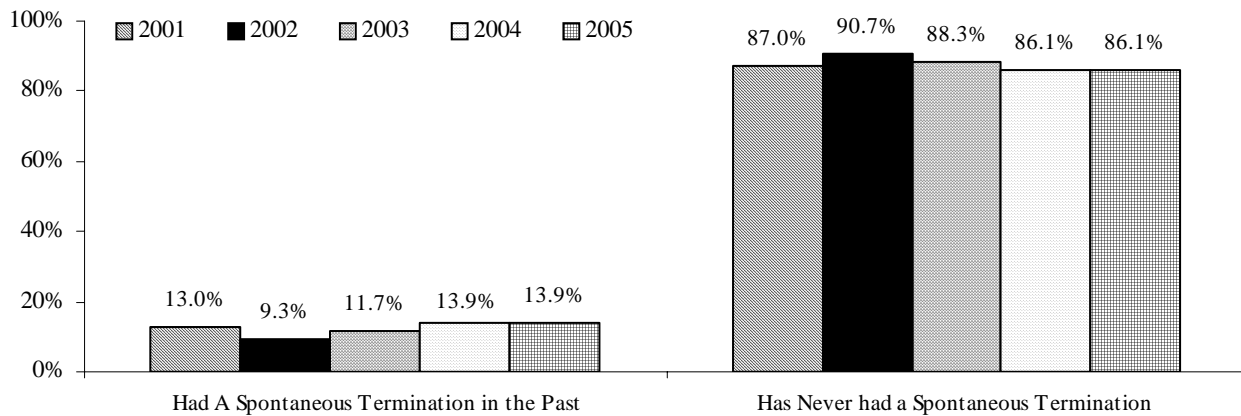


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 15, below, indicates that 13.9 percent of patients had a spontaneous termination in the past. For this report, a spontaneous abortion is defined as an abortion in which the process starts of its own accord through

natural causes. The majority of the patients, 86.1 percent, who obtained induced abortions in 2005 reported they had never had a spontaneous termination.

**Figure 15**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by**  
**Previous Spontaneous Abortions, 2001-2005**



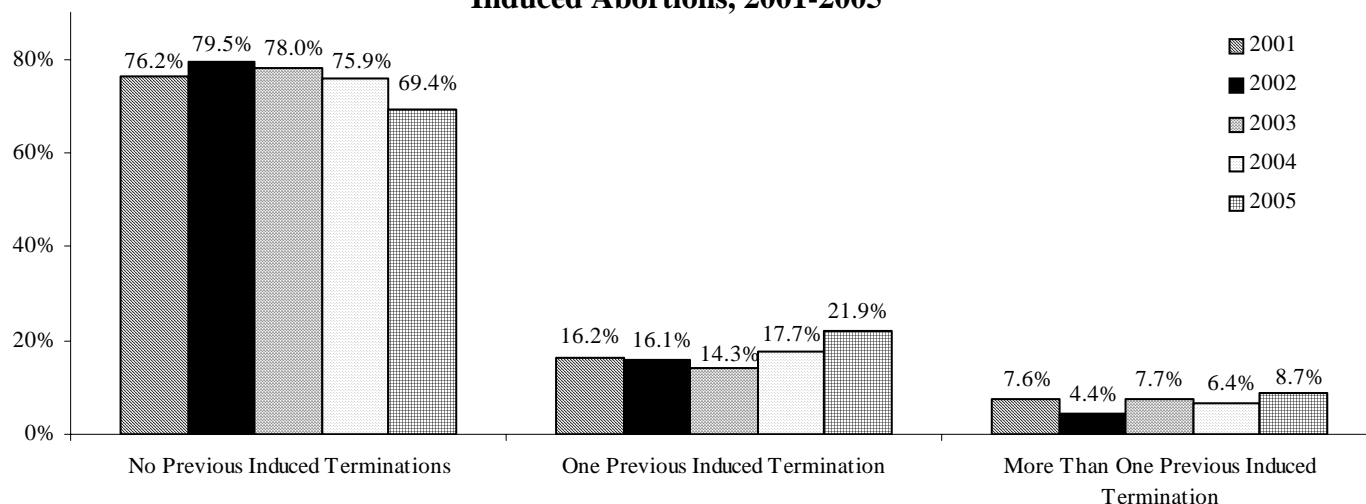
Note: Failure to add to 100 percent as a result of not stated.

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 16, below, illustrates the number of previous induced abortions reported by the patients. For this report, an induced abortion is defined as the use of any means to intentionally terminate the pregnancy of a

female known to be pregnant with knowledge that the termination with those means will with reasonable likelihood, cause the death of the fetus.

**Figure 16**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Previous**  
**Induced Abortions, 2001-2005**



Note: Failure to add to 100 percent as a result of not stated.

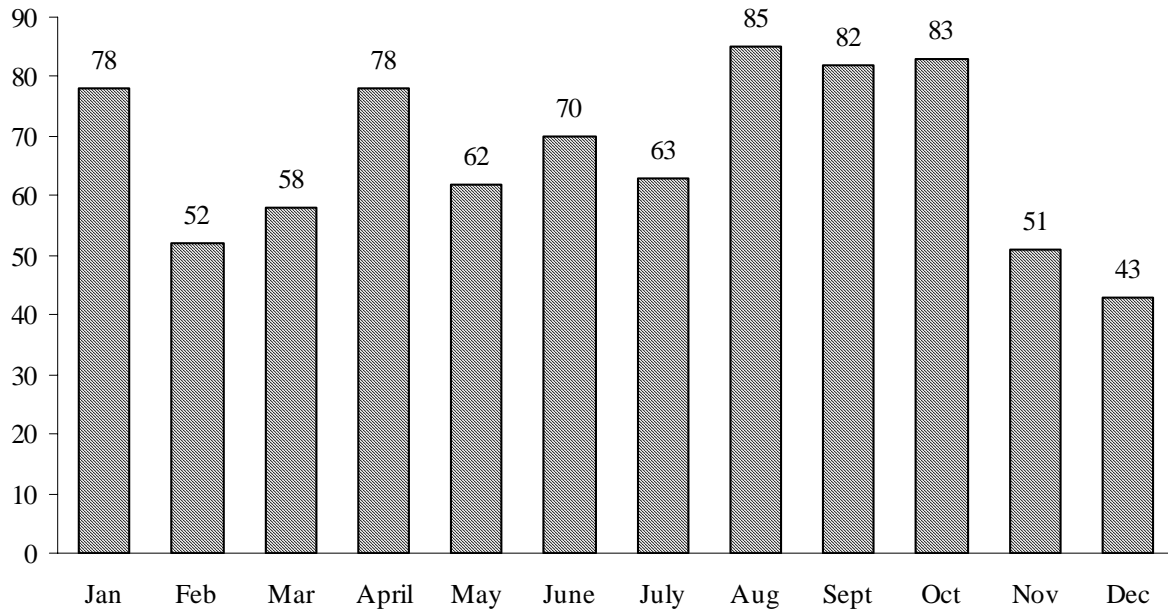
Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

As seen in Figure 16, above, the majority of patients, 69.4 percent, reported that they had no previous induced abortions. In comparison, in 2005 21.9 percent had obtained one previous induced abortion and 8.7 percent had obtained more than one previous induced abortion. In 2004, 17.7 percent had one previous induced abortion while, 6.4 percent had more than one previous induced abortion.

### Medical Information

The Report of Induced Abortion Form also asked a series of questions aimed at obtaining medical information. Figure 17, on the next page, lists the number of induced abortions performed in South Dakota during 2005 by month of occurrence. The fewest numbers of abortions were performed in December while the greatest occurred in August.

**Figure 17**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Month of Abortion, 2005**

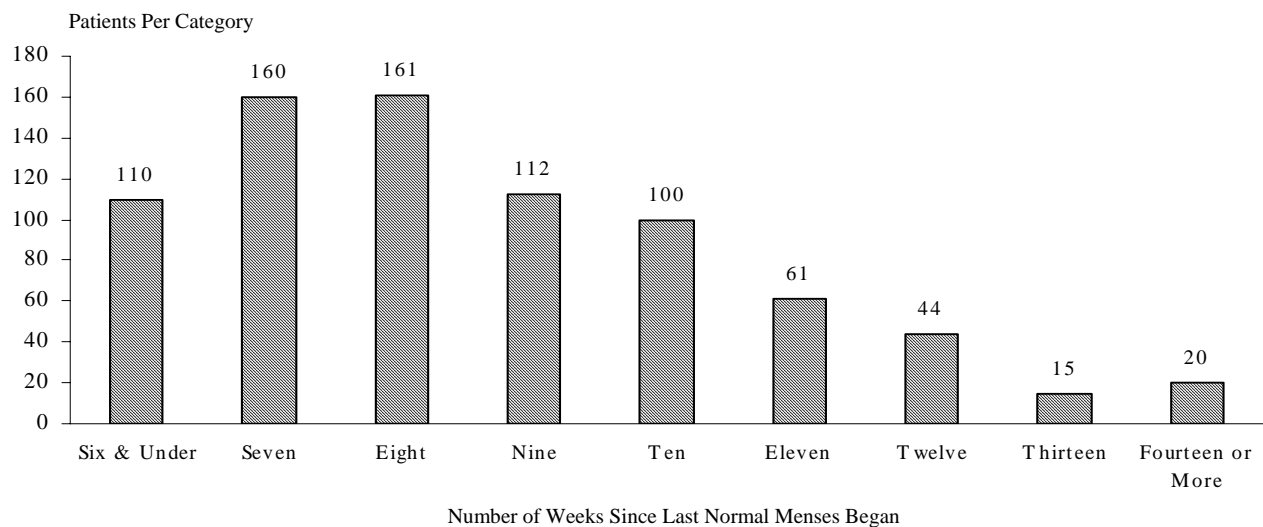


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 18, below, shows the number of weeks between the date the last normal menses began and the abortion date. Most

of the patients, 643, reported that their last normal menses began within 10 weeks prior to the induced abortion date.

**Figure 18**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Number of Weeks Since Last Normal Menses Began, 2005**



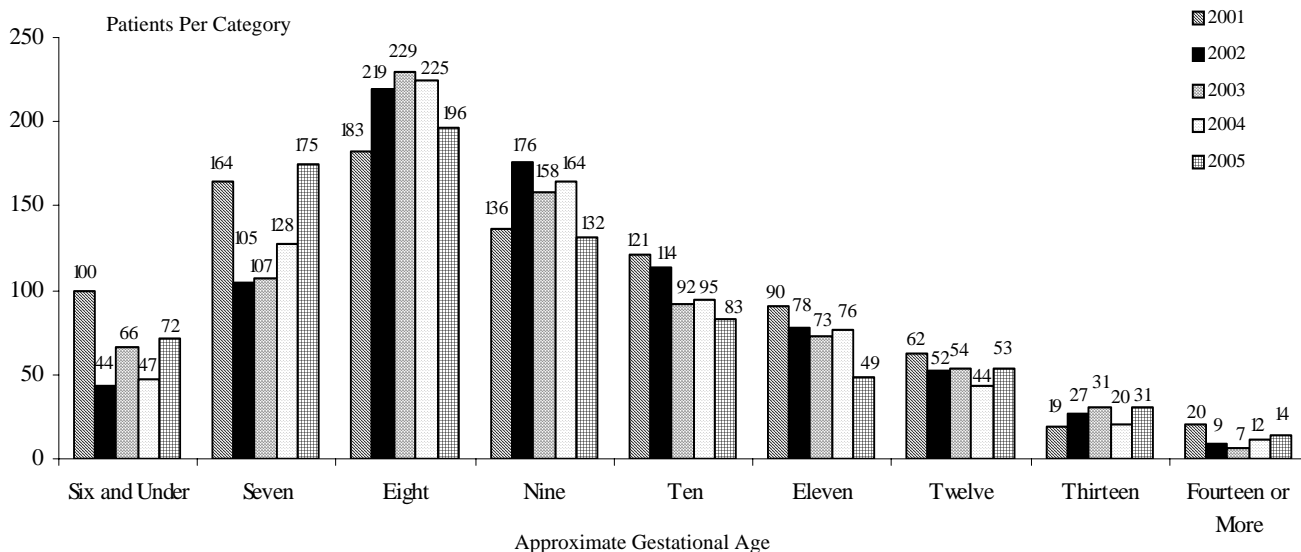
Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records



Figure 19, below, shows the number of induced abortions occurring in South Dakota from 2001 to 2005 by the clinical estimated weeks of gestation.

The largest number of patients in 2005, 196, received abortions at eight weeks of estimated gestation.

**Figure 19**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Approximate Gestational Age, 2001-2005**

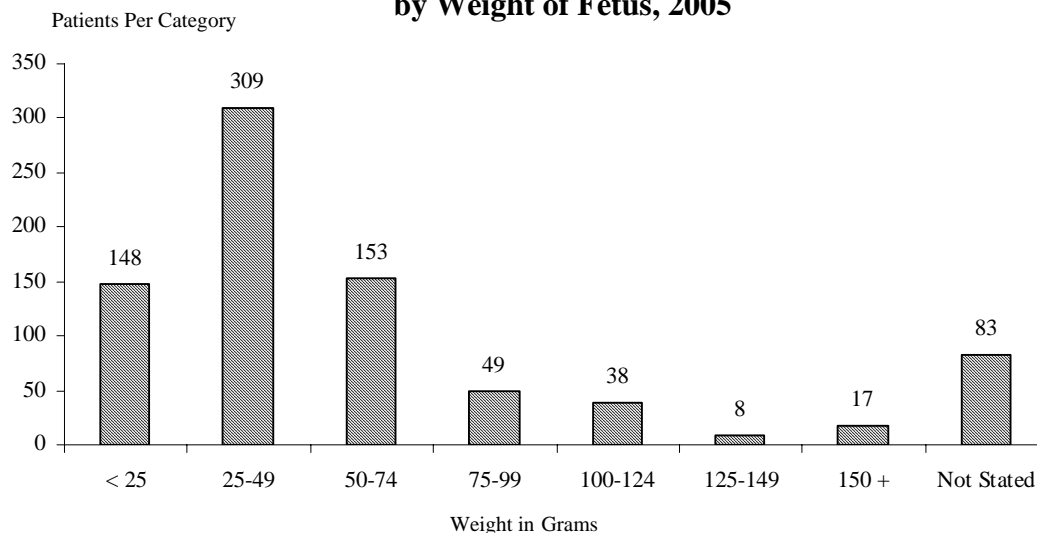


Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 20, below, lists the number of induced abortions occurring in South Dakota by the weight of the fetus. The category with the largest number of occurrences was

the 25 to 49 gram category. For comparison, fetuses in this category would weigh approximately .88 to 1.73 ounces.

**Figure 20**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Weight of Fetus, 2005**



Note: One gram equals approximately .0353 ounces or one ounce equals approximately 28.3 grams.  
Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Table 66, to the right, illustrates the number of abortions that were performed with the knowledge that a fetal abnormality existed. Of the abortions performed in 2005, 14 or 1.7 percent of the forms indicated that there was a fetal abnormality present at the time of the abortion. Most of the forms indicated that it was unknown if a fetal abnormality was present at the time of the abortion.

**Table 66**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Fetal Abnormality, 2005**

Presence of Fetal Abnormality	Number	Percentage
Yes	14	1.7%
No/Unknown	791	98.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

**Table 67**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Method of Disposal, 2005**

Method of Disposal	Number	Percentage
Burial	12	1.5%
Incineration	731	90.8%
Not Stated - Medical	59	7.3%
Not Stated – Non-medical	3	0.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

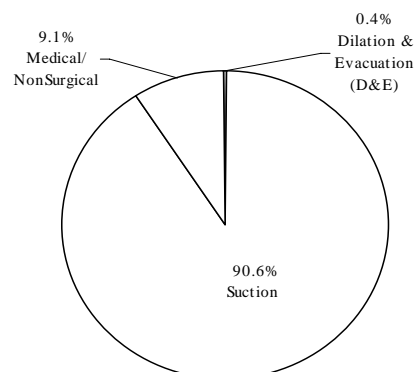
Table 67, to the left, indicates the method used to dispose of the fetus in 2005. The main method of disposal in 2005 was incineration with 731 or 90.8 percent.

## Termination Procedure

The Report of Induced Abortion Form also asked questions about the termination procedure. Figure 21, to the right, illustrates the procedures used to perform induced abortions in South Dakota in 2005.

In 2005, medical/non-surgical was used for 9.1 percent of the cases and dilation and evacuation was used for 0.4 percent of the cases. The majority of the cases used suction in 2005 with an overall percentage of 90.6 percent.

**Figure 21**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Procedure Used, 2005**



Note: Procedures used for Induced Abortions can change dramatically depending on the physician who performs them.

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

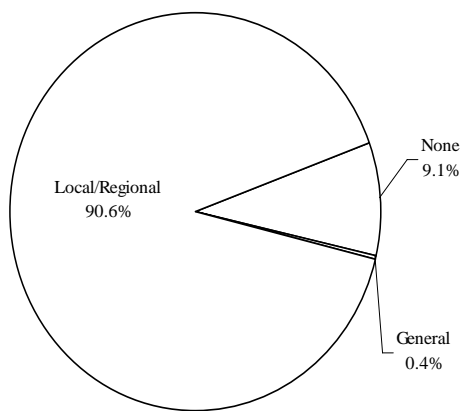
Table 68, to the right, indicates additional procedures that were used to terminate the pregnancy in 2005. Almost all abortions had an additional procedure. In 92.3 percent or 743 of the abortions an additional procedure was used to terminate the pregnancy. Sharp curettage was the additional procedure most often used with 90.6 percent. There were no cases of maternal complications reported to the Department of Health in 2005.

**Table 68**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by**  
**Any Additional Procedures Used, 2005**

Additional Procedures Used	Number	Percentage
No Additional Procedure	62	7.7%
Sharp Curettage	729	90.6%
Other	14	1.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

**Figure 22**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota**  
**by Type of Anesthetic Used, 2005**



Source: South Dakota Department of Health,  
Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

Figure 22, to the left, illustrates the type of anesthetic used for abortions performed in South Dakota. In 2005, 90.6 percent of patients were given a local or regional anesthetic while 0.4 percent were given a general anesthetic. Patients who received no anesthetic made up 9.1 percent.

### Reason for the Induced Abortion

The Report of Induced Abortion Form asks a question about the reason for the induced abortion. Table 69, on the next page, illustrates the reasons that patients had induced abortions from 2001 to 2005. The mother did not desire to have the child has been the highest response since 2001.

The mother could not afford the child has been the second highest response since 2001. In 2004, 43 percent of mothers gave more than one response while in 2005 24 percent of mothers gave more than one response.

**Table 69**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Reason for Abortion, 2001-2005**

Reason for Induced Abortion	2005		2004		2003		2002		2001	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
The pregnancy was a result of rape or incest	9	1.1%	23	2.8%	21	2.6%	20	2.4%	14	1.6%
The mother could not afford the child	205	25.5%	397	48.8%	366	44.7%	384	46.5%	353	39.4%
The mother did not desire to have the child	640	79.5%	576	70.8%	525	64.1%	536	64.9%	547	61.1%
The mother's emotional health was at risk	58	7.2%	119	14.6%	104	12.7%	94	11.4%	84	9.4%
The mother would suffer substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function if the pregnancy continued	22	2.7%	29	3.6%	16	2.0%	16	1.9%	19	2.1%
Other	103	12.8%	127	15.6%	124	15.1%	103	12.5%	144	16.2%
Refused to answer	2	0.2%	5	0.6%	33	4.0%	27	3.3%	34	3.8%

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

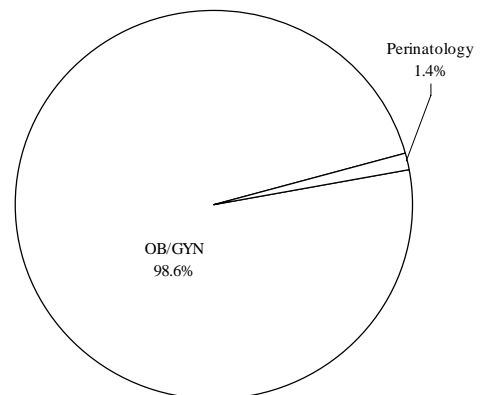
### Physician Specialty Information

Figure 23, to the right, illustrates the specialty of the physicians who performed abortions in South Dakota in 2005. Almost all abortions were performed by an OB/GYN. During the 2005 reporting period, none of the physicians who performed induced abortions in South Dakota had their license revoked or suspended or had been subject to other professional sanctions.

### Voluntary and Informed Consent Form

All the report forms received by the South Dakota Department of Health for induced abortions performed in 2005 indicated that patients received the required counseling. This refers to the counseling as required by South Dakota Codified Law 34-23A-10.

**Figure 23**  
**Induced Abortions Occurring in South Dakota by Physician's Specialty, 2005**



Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

The Voluntary and Informed Consent Form is used to collect data regarding informed consent information supplied to abortion patients. The data showed that of the 861 forms received, 825 of the patients reported receiving the medical information described in SDCL section 34-23A-10.1 during a telephone conversation and 34 in person. Of the 861 forms that were received 830 indicated that the medical information was provided by the physician performing the induced abortion and 29 by the referring physician.

Physicians performing the abortion supplied 35 of the patients with the resource information; 816 patients reported receiving the data from an agent of the physician performing the abortion. A total of 817 patients reported receiving the resource information by telephone and 41 reported receiving the information in person. Two patients received the resource information from the performing physician and their agent.

Table 70, below, illustrates the breakdown of who provided the medical and resource material. One of the forms indicated the patient did not receive the medical or resource information due to a medical emergency or because a delay would have created a serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function.

Of the 861 forms received, 859 indicated that the patient was offered the printed fetal growth and development information described in SDCL section 34-23A-10.3. Two patients did not receive the printed fetal growth and development information as the delay would have created a serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function. Of the 859, 793 did not accept the information while, 654 declined the website information. In regards to the patient obtaining the induced abortion, 805 indicated that the patient went on to obtain the induced abortion while 56 did not have the procedure.

**Table 70**  
**Source of Medical and Resource Information, 2005**

	Medical		Resource	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Referring Physician	29	3.4	9	1.0
Agent of Referring Physician	-	-	2	0.2
Physician Performing the Induced Abortion	830	96.4	35	4.1
Agent of Physician Performing the Induced Abortion	-	-	816	94.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>*859</b>	<b>99.8</b>	<b>**862</b>	<b>100</b>

Note: \*Two forms did not indicate who gave the medical information.

\*\*More than one response was given.

Source: South Dakota Department of Health, Office of Data, Statistics, and Vital Records

### Parental Notice

The Parental Notice Form is used to collect data regarding parental consent for minors obtaining induced abortions. The form asks a question about who is responsible for the minor patient. Of the 56 forms submitted, 48 indicated the person responsible for the minor patient was a parent, in four cases it was not stated, however a parent was notified as outlined in SDCL 34-23A-7.

The data showed that notice to a parent or guardian was provided to a parent or guardian in 52 of the cases. Of the remaining forms, four forms indicated the physician was authorized by the court to perform the induced abortion. In regards to the minor obtaining the induced abortion, all indicated the minor did obtain the abortion.

